National Institute of Homoeopathy's Contribution on Research and Teaching

3064. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the contribution of National Institute of Homoeopathy, Calcutta in the matter of teaching and research; and

(b) what steps are proposed to be taken to improve the performance of the Institute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) In the matter of teaching, National Institute of Homoeopathy, Calcutta has been conducting a Post-Diploma course of two years duration viz. Dip - NIH from 1977 onwards. 175 students have completed this course successfully upto the year 1988. In addition, the institute has also started B.H.M.S. Degree Course of 5½ years duration from 1987 onwards. The first batch appeared for the first BIMS examination in 1991. In the matter of research, the National Institute of Homoeopathy, is engaged in Clinical Research and Drug Standardisation.

(b) The following steps are envisaged:—

(i) Appointment of 34 members of academic staff;

(ii) Increase in the bed strength from 50 to 100;

(iii) Introduction of a post-graduate course in Homoeopthy.

Selection of Director for National Institute of Homoeopathy, Calcutta

3065. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Institute of Homoeopthy, Calcutta is headed by a person who is not professionally qualified in the field;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to ensure selection of eminent Homoeopaths as Head of the Institute after the retirement of the present incumbent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

AIDS Vaccine

3066. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be plesed to state:

(a) whether Government have made any efforts to invent AIDS vaccine; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Global research efforts are currently underway in several systems of medicines to find an effective cure for AIDS. So far, none of the durgs has been found to be effective to cure AIDS.

(b) The Indian Council of Medical Research is monitoring the global activity and as and when any promising drug is available, the Council will